

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT AN INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

In accordance with Section 15072 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, this notice is to inform any responsible agencies, interested parties, and organizations that the San Bernardino County Department of Public Works, Special Districts has completed a Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the **CSA 70J Reservoir 3A Expansion Project**.

Project Location: The Proposed Project is located within the unincorporated community of Oak Hills, County Service Area (CSA) 70J, San Bernardino County, California. The Project Site includes a 1.62-acre parcel located at 6535 Oak Hill Road.

Project Description: The San Bernardino County Department of Public Works, Special Districts proposes the expansion of County water storage facilities with the construction of a new above ground reservoir. The Proposed Project includes the grading, installation, related plumbing, and operation of an additional 2-million-gallon (MG) steel reservoir (120 feet in diameter; 28 feet tall) and a 30-foot by 30-foot building. The proposed reservoir would be painted with a neutral color scheme matching the facility's existing reservoirs. The Project Site consists of fenced, vacant property located adjacent to existing water tanks and a booster station within an area characterized by rural residential uses. The existing pumps on the property would not be upgraded or modified as part of this Project. The existing pumps are adequate to supply water to the proposed new storage tank.

The Proposed Project would include the following improvements:

- Construction of a new 16-foot-wide asphalt access road and a retaining wall
- Construction of a new Stormwater/Overflow Detention Basin
- Addition of new pipelines and corresponding easements
- Addition of three power poles, electrical lines, and corresponding overhead easement
- Construction of a new 2 MG water tank

During construction of the proposed new tank pad, the Project Site would be over excavated to a depth of approximately 3 feet below ground surface (bgs) to avoid settlement. The pad would then be constructed using fill material to a maximum depth of approximately 20 feet below the over-excavated pad surface. Project grading activities are expected to include 10,500 cubic yards of over excavation, 140 cubic yards of cut, and 9,200 cubic yards of fill. Construction equipment and parking for construction workers will be staged in the existing County Tank Compound adjacent to the reservoir facility. No nighttime lighting would be required for the Project as all construction activities would occur during the day.

Construction is anticipated to begin in 2023 or 2024 and would last approximately 6 months. The Proposed Project's operation and maintenance would be added to the existing facility's maintenance schedule.

Potentially Significant Environmental Impacts: No potentially significant impacts to resources were identified in the Initial Study. All impacts would be reduced to a less-than-significant level with the incorporation of mitigation measures.

Hazardous Waste Sites: The project site is not located on any known listed toxic sites pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.

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Public Review Period: In compliance with CEQA, San Bernardino County Department of Public Works has established a 30-day public review period beginning March 30, 2023 to solicit comments and input on the Draft IS/MND. To ensure that all environmental issues are fully identified and adequately addressed, written comments are invited from all interested parties. Written comments regarding the scope and content of information in the Draft IS/MND should be submitted no later than April 30, 2023 to:

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The Draft IS/MND is available online at: **<https://dpw.sbcounty.gov>**